ANNUAL REPORT

2024

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Message from Leadership

Reflecting on 2024, we are filled with pride at the progress towards our mission of bridging education inequality gaps through alternative education and literary arts. Our work in 2024 directly reached over 800 people and over 500,000 through our virtual engagement. We are particularly grateful for the meaningful progress in accelerating learning for 125 children and successfully enrolling 13 out-of-school children in Plateau State.

The launch and success of our Empowering Citizen Aid Actors programme demonstrate the power of supporting grassroots initiatives. Through a micro strategic investment of ₦2.2 million in grants and capacity strengthening of grassroots initiatives. I am proud of our contribution towards building a citizen and community-led framework for sustainable change in education and youth development in Nigeria.

Our creative Creative Futures Initiative (CFI) has flourished with open mics and poetry workshops, and continue to be safe spaces for nurturing young talents, building their skills and supporting them with market access.

The innovative "Poets for Avoidable Deaths" campaign in 2024 reached over 426,000 people, demonstrating the power of youth voice and creative arts for driving social change.

As we look at these achievements, we're reminded that each number represents a story of transformation - a child discovering the joy of reading, a grassroots leader gaining new skills to serve their community, or a young poet finding their voice. These stories fuel our commitment to creating lasting change through education and the arts.

As we look forward to an exciting year in 2025, I want to express my profound gratitude to all partners, donors and supporters. We hope that you will continue to work with COAL as we deepen our efforts in accelerating learning and youth development.

Nnonye Obi

Trustee

The state of education

Globally, **250 million children are out of school, 122 million of them are girls** and young women. Sub-Saharan Africa alone needs 15 million new teachers by 2030.

In Nigeria, **18.5 million children—60% of whom are girls** are out of school. Despite an increase in enrolment rates in Nigeria, 3 out of 4 children in basic education are unable to read with comprehension or solve simple math problems.

About Us

Vision

An Africa where every child and youth has unfettered access to quality education and essential skills to lead impactful and fulfilling lives.

Mission

Bridging inequality gaps through alternative education and literary arts development.

What we do

Alternative Education

Through our education portfolio, we invest in grassroots accelerated learning educators and their initiatives. These are local leaders deeply rooted in their communities and uniquely positioned to address the learning needs of underserved children and youth.

Youth creative development

We create safe spaces for harnessing youth creative skills and artistic expression. We do this through creative writing workshops, open mics, book-to-film showcases, poetry slams, and book readings that celebrate African literature and promote author discussions.

Advocacy

We design and launch impactful advocacy and media campaigns that address key sustainable development challenges in Africa. These campaigns leverage creative strategies and diverse media platforms to maximise their reach and influence.

Development consulting

We enhance institutional capacity by providing business services to private and development sector organisations in the area of corporate governance, strategy development, research, monitoring evaluation and learning (MEL), communications branding and training.

2024 IN FIGURES

125
Children and youth supported in accelerated learning

13
Out of school children enrolled

3
Education projects funded

869
People directly reached across interventions in 2024

500K+
Engaged in global advocacy campaigns

62
Youths supported via open mics

₦2.2m
Invested in education projects

60%
Staff & volunteer satisfaction

4
New clients and consultancies delivered

12
New youth jobs created/contracted for a service

70%
Grassroots leaders trained for the first time across modules

3
New education partners

20+
New countries reached

32
African literature sold

74
Grassroots leaders trained

4
Advocacy campaigns launched

60
Students supported with literacy skills in 1 public school

14
Emerging poets trained

INVESTING IN ACCELERATED LEARNING

The development landscape is changing, and now includes a new category of change-makers: citizen aid actors (CAAs), often referred to as "everyday humanitarians" or "everyday philanthropists"—these are citizens who address community needs driven by compassion and local insight. These CAAs are often individual-driven, volunteer-led, small-scale, privately funded, and spontaneously established.

At COAL, we recognise the role of CAAs, especially at the grassroots. In the second quarter of 2024, we launched the "Empowering Citizen Aid Actors" program, aimed at enhancing grassroots leadership through a citizen and community-led approach for sustainable change in education and youth development. The program offered micro financial grants and institutional capacity strengthening to CAAs across sectors in Nigeria.

Piloted in Plateau State, which has **23.2%** of Nigeria's out-of-school children lacking adequate school infrastructure, limited teaching resources, and severe teacher shortages. We supported three grassroots organisations to accelerate learning **for 125 children and enrolling 13 out-of-school children** in Plateau.

We work with alternative and accelerated learning educators and advocates to support more children and young people's access to education. This fiscal year, we awarded ₦2.2 million in grants to grassroots initiatives.

In October 2024, our education partner, Claire Aid Foundation, held a one-day education summit in Jebbu Miango, Plateau State, to raise awareness on prioritising education. The event brought together 76 participants including, parents, community leaders, and local government stakeholders to promote partnerships for supporting children's learning. This activity strengthened community involvement, leading to greater participation in Claire Aid's after-school learning initiative **'Jebbu Miango Reads**', which serves **60 children** through funding support from COAL.

Following the summit, the project recorded notable outcomes: **a 65%** average attendance rate, **45%** of learners improved their reading skills, **30%** enhanced their writing abilities and **10 learners** are now enrolled in school. See a video highlight video highlight **below.**

> "I love to come to the library because I get to see new pictures, watch videos, and learn ABCD in a fun way - Mula"

A LIGHT IN THE DARK: MULA'S PROGRESS

Seven-year-old Mula Weyi's smile now shines, but his path hasn't been easy. Born into a family struggling to make ends meet in Jebbu Miango, his parents worked long hours at mining sites for their livelihood. Mula spent his early years wandering the community streets, often hungry, alone and violent towards other children.

When Mula joined the Jebbu Miango Reads project, something remarkable began to unfold. The same energy that once manifested as disruption transformed into leadership.

Given love, attention, and consistent support by the team at Jebbu Miango Reads, Mula began to show that he is a natural organiser who delights in helping arrange classrooms and rally his fellow learners. He has made some learning progress, from being unable to recognise the English alphabets, he is now able to identify and say the sounds of the first two groups of the Jolly Phonics confidently and also identify colours. There's also some improvement in his speech and self-expression.

Mula is selected among the ten children enrolled under this project and now attends the local primary school in Miango. He reminds us that every child deserves the chance to shine, and with the right support and environment, transformation might be slow, but possible.

OVERCOMING SPATIAL PROCESSING DIFFICULTIES

Wiki Kefas is known for two things: her radiant smile and silence. The seven-year-old farmer's daughter never misses a class at the Jebbu Miango Reads after school programme. She arrives early to help arrange chairs with quiet dedication. But when it came time to participate in class among other learners, Wiki's voice would fade to a whisper, trapped behind a wall of shyness.

"I love learning and I will tell my friends to come to class so that they can learn too" Wiki

Wiki faced other unique challenges, including spatial processing difficulties that made reading feel like solving a puzzle in reverse. Yet, she never gave up. Day after day, she returned to class, her determination evident in her perfect attendance and helping hands, even when words failed her.

Through personalised attention and specialised learning techniques, Wiki gradually found her voice. Not only did her test scores soar from 15 to 68 out of 70, but she conquered her reading challenges, mastering the ability to blend sounds and read from left to right. More precious – Wiki now joins class discussions with growing assurance.

Her journey from silent helper to engaged learner shows how nurturing a child's unique potential can unlock extraordinary growth and hope for transformation.

Our partner Uplifting our Children through Support is supporting 25 learners in Jos south LGA of Plateau State. Under the project, 5 teachers of LEA Fwavwei (Jos north) public school were trained in 2024 in Jolly Phonics to address a literacy deficit where 75% of the students in the school lack basic reading skills. The attending teachers embraced the methods with enthusiasm, and one volunteered to step down the training to her colleagues.

Daily phonics lessons are now conducted, reaching about 60 of the school's 90 struggling readers, with additional reinforcement at the Uplifting Children's Library. The teachers' dedication is driving consistent implementation, and we expect improvements in the learner's reading abilities.

Among the 40 children benefiting from Patris Accelerated Learning Centre project supported by COAL, three exceptional learners are now enrolled in the Kingdom Citizens' International School, Jos, thanks to the Patris Empowerment Initiative.

OVERCOMING SPATIAL LEARNING DIFFICULTIES: ISRAEL'S JOURNEY WITH PALC

Before Israel Thomas, a six-year-old boy from Jenta joined the Patris Accelerated Learning Centre (PALC), he struggled with spatial processing difficulties and could not hold a pencil His attempts at writing were often disheartening—his letters and numbers were written in reverse, and he was frustrated by his lack of progress.

His grandmother, concerned for her grandson, enrolled him in PALC with the hope that he would gain foundational learning skills. At first, Israel found the process difficult. He struggled with communication, as he spoke little English, and the language barrier made learning even more challenging.

Despite the setback, and with support from his grandmother and teachers at PALC, he kept returning to class, eager to try again and make improvements. His perseverance paid off as he learned to hold his pencil properly, identify letters and numbers, and even write with confidence. In his first assessment, Israel did not score any points, but by his third assessment, he had improved, scoring 10 out of 20. His grandmother shared her heartfelt gratitude: "When I brought my boy, he couldn't write 123 or ABC, but since he started attending your lessons, he has improved and can now write. Thank you, and may God bless you."

> When I brought my boy, he couldn't write 123 or ABC, but since he started attending your lessons, he has improved and can now write. Thank you, and may God bless you - Grandparent

"I was amazed by how quickly the children picked up the concepts. It was fun! Rewarding to see them grow." Volunteer

For Grace Hwyere Ayong, teaching literacy became more than just a part of her university studies – it became a calling. She is a volunteer at the Children's Library of Uplifting our Children through Support.

While pursuing her Early Childhood Education degree, Grace faced the challenge of teaching young minds who struggled with basic reading skills. However, through specialised training from educators at Uplifting our Children through Support, Grace discovered new ways to reach her students. When faced with irregular attendance, she developed creative solutions, carefully reviewing missed lessons and ensuring no child was left behind.

Grace's journey from uncertain beginner to confident educator mirrors the progress of her young students. As she implements her training in her weekly Bible club and prepares for her teaching practice, she carries with her a powerful message: "You can do anything you set your mind to do."

EMPOWERING
CITIZEN AID ACTORS

TRAINING MOUDLES

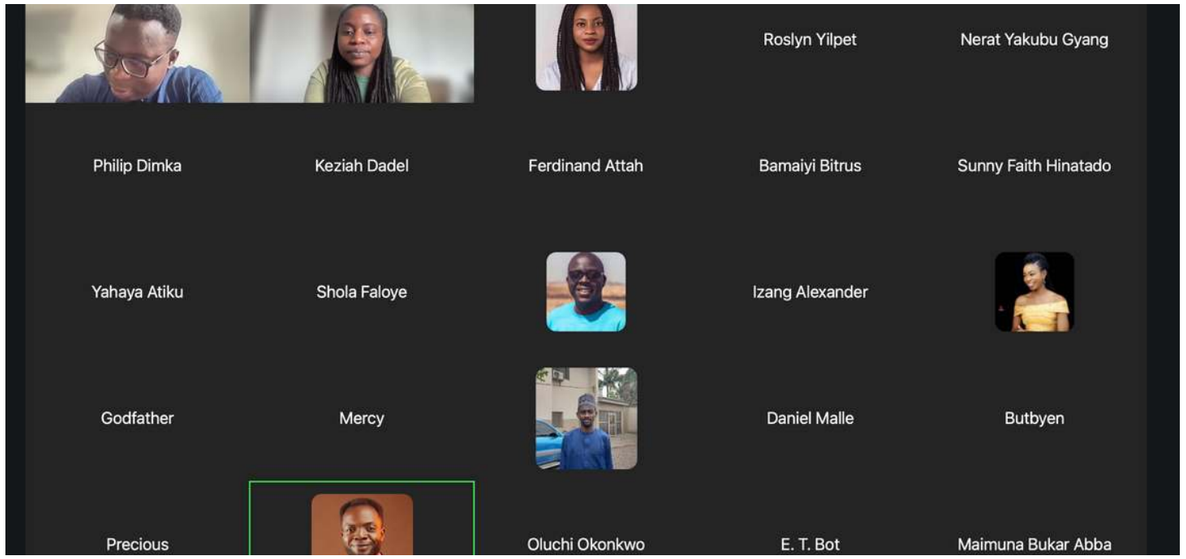
- Corporate Governance for Nonprofit Management
- Fundamentals of Project Management
- Resource mobilization and Fundraising for nonprofit
- Communications for Development Practice
- Financial Management for Nonprofit
- Basics of Monitoring Evaluation and Learning
- Tech on a Shoestring: Affordable Digital Solutions for Nonprofits
- Safeguarding and Psychosocial Wellbeing in Development practice

5TH SEP - 6TH DEC 2024

ZOOM

SUPPORTING GRASSROOTS LEADERSHIP FOR SUSTAINED IMPACT

CAPACITY STRENGTHENING OF CITIZEN AID ACTORS



As part of the second objective of the Empowering Citizen Aid Actors programme focused on enhancing the institutional capacity of small-scale grassroots development initiatives in Nigeria. Series of capacity strengthening sessions were held in Q3 & Q4 of 2024, covering seven modules: Corporate Governance, Project Management, Resource Mobilisation and Fundraising, Communications for Development, Financial Management, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL), and Low budget technology tools for Nonprofits.

Overall sentiment from participants was generally positive, with consistent mentions of terms like "impactful," "enlightening," and "insightful" to describe their experience. First-time trainees expressed particular appreciation for the foundational knowledge gained, while more experienced participants valued the clarity brought to complex concepts. Participants also expressed a strong motivation to apply the learning, suggesting the training successfully met its objective of building practical capacity of CAAs initiatives.

74

Grassroots leaders trained

8

Training supported by 8 international development professionals with a global footprint in Nigeria, UK, Netherlands and South Africa

70%

70% of participants were participating for the first time in training across all modules covered.

4.5

Total mean score on the content and quality of all sessions on a likert scale of 5

Learning Repository: To enhance and sustain the progress in strengthening grassroots institutional capacity, COAL developed a free, open-source learning repository. This repository contains over 140 additional resources, designed to support CAAs continuous learning.

"My organisation is a small upcoming organisation, we needed this aspect of fundraising knowledge and we've gotten one, the knowledge will equip us with different fundraising possibilities so as to win grants and hit the ground running." - Participant

"It has reinforced my resolve to ensure that my organisation do a more effective financial reporting system" - Participant

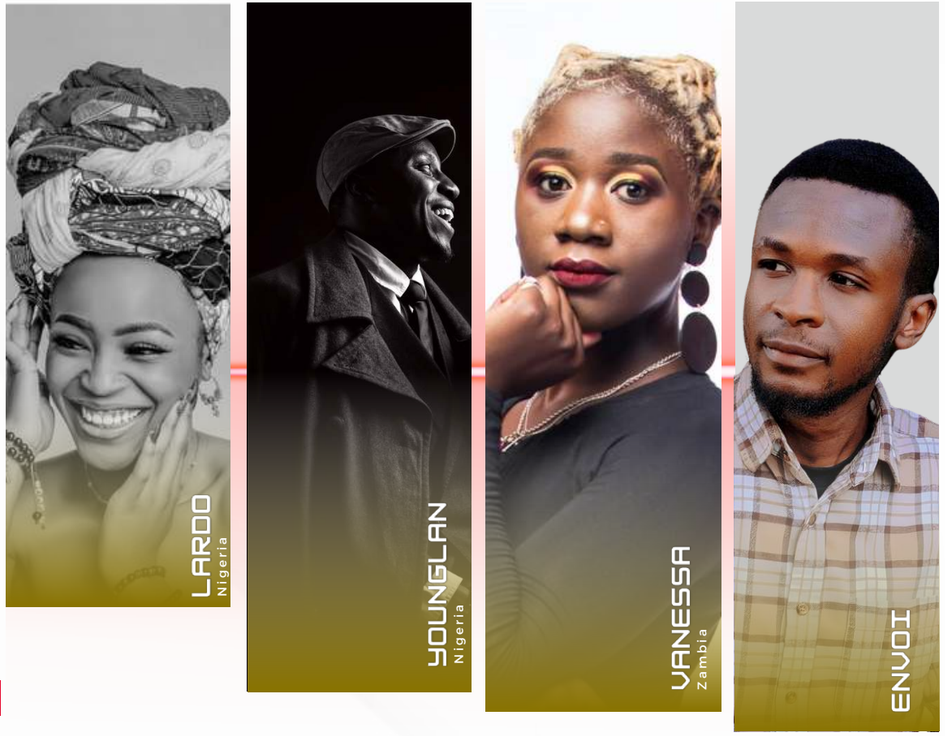
I can now develop a communication strategy for our Accelerated Basic Education Programme for Out of School Children in Dadinkowa community of Gombe State" - Participant

"This session is quite insightful, most tech tools mentioned, I have little ideas on them but this training gave me a broader perspective to them. Thanks" - Participant

AMPLIFYING YOUTH VOICE IN GLOBAL ADVOCACY

POETS 4 AVOIDABLE DEATHS

26th Feb - 30th March 2024



Supported by

In the first quarter of 2024, COAL in partnership with the Avoidable Deaths Network at University of Leicester launched the "Poets for Avoidable Deaths" campaign, using spoken word poetry to raise awareness on preventable deaths in Sub-Saharan Africa. The campaign featured four poets from Nigeria and Zambia, creating impactful videos spotlighting avoidable disaster deaths resulting from snakebite, silicosis, drowning and maternal mortality, contributing to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) issues related to gender equality, poverty reduction and climate action. Launched across social media, the campaign reached over 426,000 people across 19 countries.

REACH AND RESONANCE

Reach (unique)
49,179

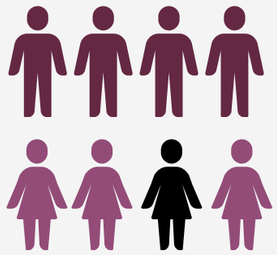
Total unique reach across Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, Youtube & Web.

Impressions
426,279

Total number of times campaign contents were seen

Engagement
51,946

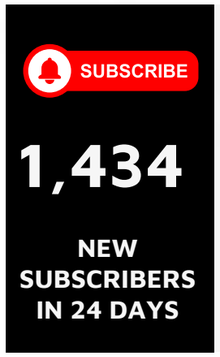
Total number of likes, reactions, saves, clicks, comments, shares and replies

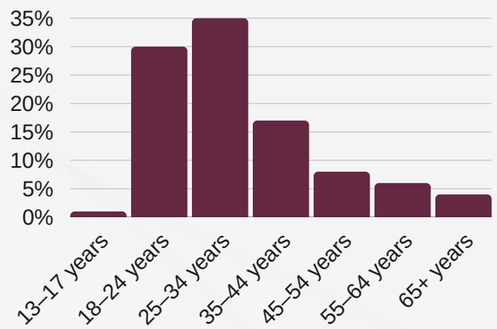


73% Male

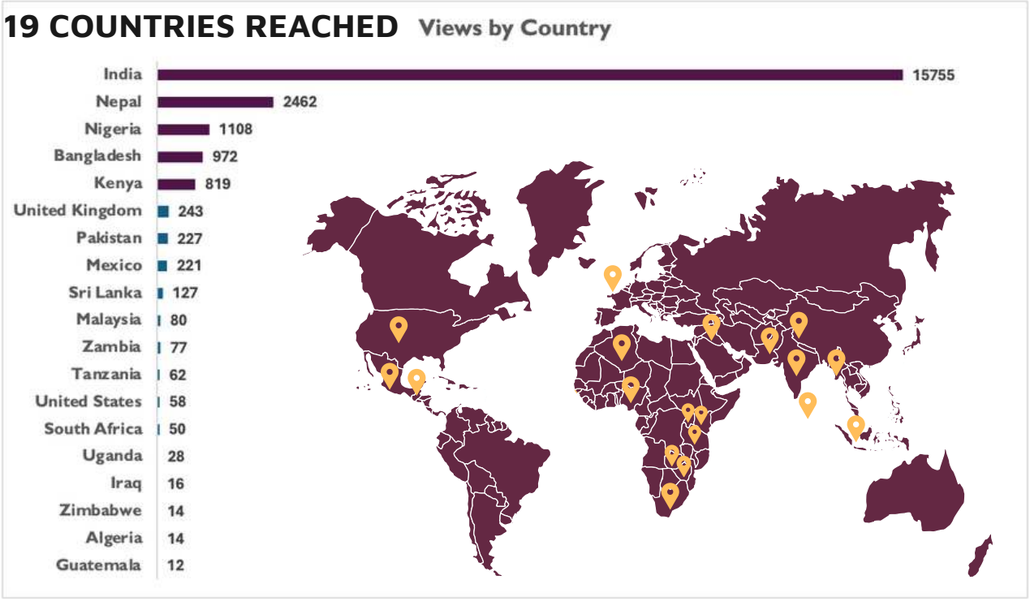
27% Female

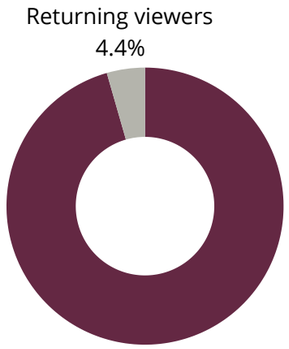
Male and female distribution of campaign viewers

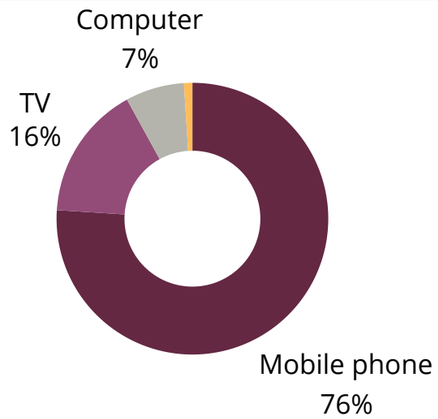




Age representation of campaign Viewers







PRAISE FOR THE CAMPAIGN

"...Thank you for shedding a light on such an important issue and doing it in the powerful way only you can

Youtube Campaign viewer

"Wow, COAL & ADN - that's a "punch in the gut" impactful campaign! Celebrating spoken word and using poetry to raise awareness of avoidable deaths from disaster - this is the content I am here for! More, more of this please! 🙌❤️🙌

LinkedIn Viewer

"It's really exciting to see a collaboration between the arts and academia. It's like discovering a new element. So much potential for transformation here

Webinar participant

"Thanks to the Avoidable Deaths Network, Custodians of African Literature - COAL and the University of Leicester for creating this beautiful story.

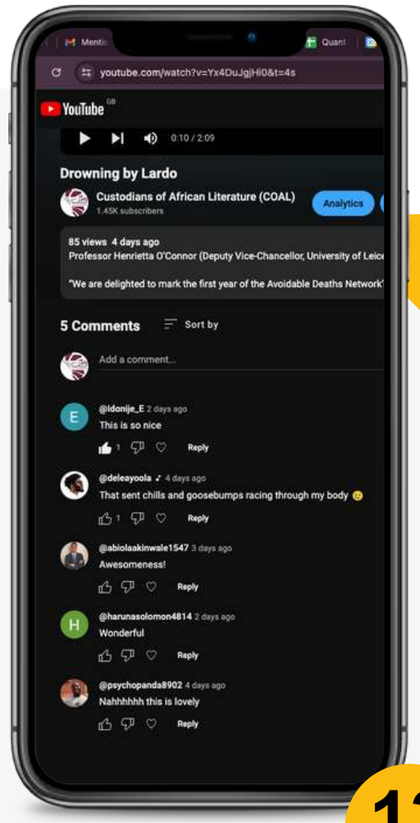
Global Snakebite Initiative

"I have watched this so many times, I can not help but imagine the old men who mined and always have a terrible cough. For all the hard work they put into make a living they die because of lack of safety or live a life of continuously gasping for air. This is sad, yet timely.

Youtube Campaign viewer

Spoken Word Campaign Videos

Watch campaign videos here!



EMPOWERING YOUTH IN CREATIVE ARTS

OPEN MICS IN 2024

Our signature open mics in 2024 continued to provide safe spaces for young literary artists across Nigeria and beyond to showcase their talents and engage with their communities. Through inclusive platforms for youth, we continue to foster a thriving community of creative expression, learning and growth for young talents

143
Young creatives signed-up

62
Showed up, graced the mic or supported the community of emerging young poets

100%
Rated our open mic events as very good

83%
of participants gained new knowledge and skills from our open mics

- In 2024, **143 individuals** from seven countries expressed interest in participating in our Open Mic events, with the majority from Nigeria (87%), followed by the UK (7%), Uganda (3%), and smaller representations from Zambia, Kenya, Niger, and the US (1% each). The demographic breakdown showed 62% male, 36% female, and 1% who preferred not to disclose their gender. Age-wise, 64% were 18–29, 29% were 30–40, and 7% were over 40.
- Across the Open Mic events held in 2024, **62 individuals** turned up and actively participated. We created a safe space providing hands-on public speaking, performance poetry and creative development opportunities
- **100%** of post-open mic survey showed participants rating our open mic events as very good
- **83%** of participants gained new knowledge and skills from open mics in 2024

The Open Mic events in 2024 had a profound impact on participants, fostering creativity, connection, and personal growth. Attendees valued the opportunity to engage with like-minded creatives, describing it as both therapeutic and inspirational. The events also reinforced the importance of self-expression, with participants recognising their uniqueness and gaining renewed motivation to pursue their creative passions.

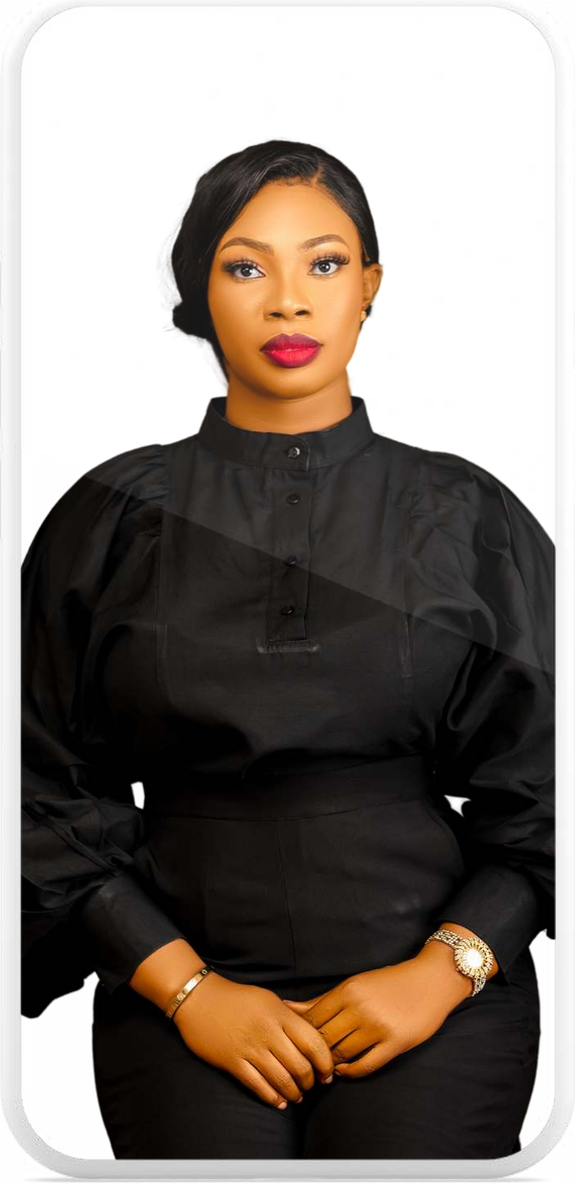
Beyond emotional and creative growth, the event equipped participants with practical skills and insights into the business side of art. Many noted the value of learning how to transition poetry into diverse forms and monetize their craft.

> *I've gained more clarity on how the mental health of a writer is very important to maintain a steady flow of the writing and creativity process.* - Participant

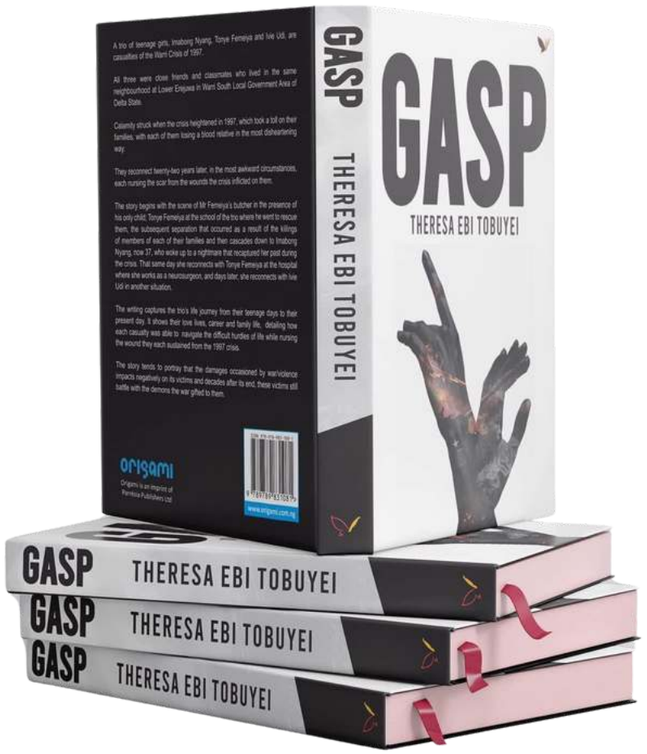
> *There is so much I have learned, particularly about the transitioning of poetry from just performance to several different forms and the possibility of making money and impact. - Participant*

> *Worth the while! The event convinced me even more that a good writer is a great reader. I even got a title for a poem from the session. - Participant*

> *I reconnected to something (that I haven't done in a long time) that made me who I am today. It was refreshing* 😊 *- Participant*



Book reading with Theresa Ebi



In February 2024, we hosted author Theresa Ebi for a book reading of her debut novel 'GASP' in Jos. Tobuyei read gripping excerpts from "Gasp" to a rapt audience of over 23 diverse youth participants. Joined by Yongpan Abdullahi, an expert on Psychosocial support, the event fostered rich discussions spanning the novel's narrative, its resonance with Plateau's complexities, and broader themes like trauma's lingering impacts and the importance of self-care for creatives tackling difficult subjects. Tobuyei's authenticity shone through as she reflected candidly on life during the 1997 violence that inspired "Gasp" and her own battles with Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Exhibiting a profound sense of empathy towards society's most vulnerable, Tobuyei's compassionate outreach extended to an Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp in Mangu LGA of Plateau State on February 24th, 2024. She spearheaded the distribution of essential food supplies while amplifying awareness regarding the significant challenges confronted by internally displaced persons – a central theme explored in her literary work, "Gasp." By engaging in creative activities like painting, music, and dance, the initiative aimed to bring solace and hope to young survivors of the devastating violence that erupted on January 23rd, 2024, in Mangu LGA of Plateau State.

In striving to illuminate the plight of internally displaced children, especially those affected by this conflict, Theresa endeavoured to offer a semblance of solace amidst their profoundly distressing circumstances. This activity engaged over 500 children affected by conflict in the area. Read key highlight here!

"When I saw what was happening in Plateau State, I had to do what was within my power to help, it's about that pain and remembrance of the past." – Theresa Ebi

CAPACITY STRENGTHENING OF YOUNG EMERGING POETS

14
Emerging poets trained

93%
Improved understanding in spoken word and performance poetry

71%
Gained better understanding of the writing process

8
Poets were engaging in a poetry workshop for the first time

In Q4, we supported 14 emerging poets (7 male, 7 female) in a poetry workshop aimed at enhancing their poetry writing skills, building confidence in performance poetry, and increasing exposure to creative markets. The workshop had a deeply positive impact on the participants, helping them grow as poets, become more confident in their creative abilities, and appreciate the nuances of the poetic process. Building on the success of this workshop, we plan to expand our offerings, incorporating more interactive learning experiences and reaching a wider group of emerging poets in the upcoming year.

This workshop has made me realise that my voice is needed, and my ability to own my voice would help me in writing poetry.

It has been quite an experience, I don't think the six years I spent schooling gave me something like this during these three days.

I honestly learnt a lot and I had fun while learning. I hope to improve in every aspect so I can become a better poet and writer.

This workshop has helped me to be more conscious of the form of the poem I'm writing. It has also helped me to imagine myself performing. I didn't see myself there before this.

CELEBRATING YOUTH LEADERSHIP: STAFF & VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

COAL'S VOLUNTEER AT THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S GLOBAL GATEWAY HIGH-LEVEL YOUTH EVENT

We are incredibly proud of Adekunbi Ogunsuyi, who has been a dedicated volunteer with COAL since 2020, supporting our creative projects. Adekunbi recently represented the Nigerian Youth Sounding Board at the European Commission's Global Gateway High-Level Youth Event in Brussels Belgium October 2024. At the event, she delivered a powerful presentation titled "Sharing Youth Stories," where she shared the board's achievements over the past three years, celebrated committee successes, and offered insightful recommendations for newly established youth boards.

Beyond her presentation, Adekunbi contributed to key recommendations for the incoming Director-General for International Partnerships at the European Commission.

Her suggestions—centered on the pillars of Engage, Empower, and Connect—focused on enhancing youth participation through practical strategies like simplifying visa applications, offering paid internships, and expanding opportunities for marginalised communities.

Adekunbi, working alongside other youths presented their contributions on 9th October 2024. Their contributions were acknowledged by the European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, who commended the global impact of youth sounding boards. As Adekunbi concluded her term as a youth advisor, we are inspired by her commitment and leadership. A new cohort of advisors was inaugurated on November 8, 2024, marking the continuation of this impactful program. We are so proud of Adekunbi's work and her continuous dedication to supporting youth development and creative expression. Her love of giving back to her community highlights the impact of volunteerism and the power of youth-led initiatives.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHT

Oluchi Okonkwo, a part-time staff member at COAL and a second-year Veterinary Medicine student, has experienced remarkable growth through her work with us. She credits COAL for helping her develop essential skills in strategic thinking and project management.

Her time with us has played a pivotal role in her recent selection for the Bridge Programme under the Afara Initiative, **where she was chosen from over 4,200 applicants**. Oluchi's continued growth is also reflected in her selection for the **Aspire Leadership program by Harvard University, set to begin in 2025.** We are proud of Oluchi's journey and will continue to support our young people to greater heights.

"Working with COAL has forced me out of my shell—from being an introvert to facilitating workshops and moderating meetings. It was all hands-on."

INTERN HIGHLIGHT

Nanbal Monday began his internship with COAL in March 2024, bringing enthusiasm and a passion for learning. Since joining the team, Nanbal has made valuable contributions to COAL's creative and education projects, demonstrating a strong commitment to supporting our organisation's mission. His adaptability and eagerness to take on new challenges have made him a key asset to the team.

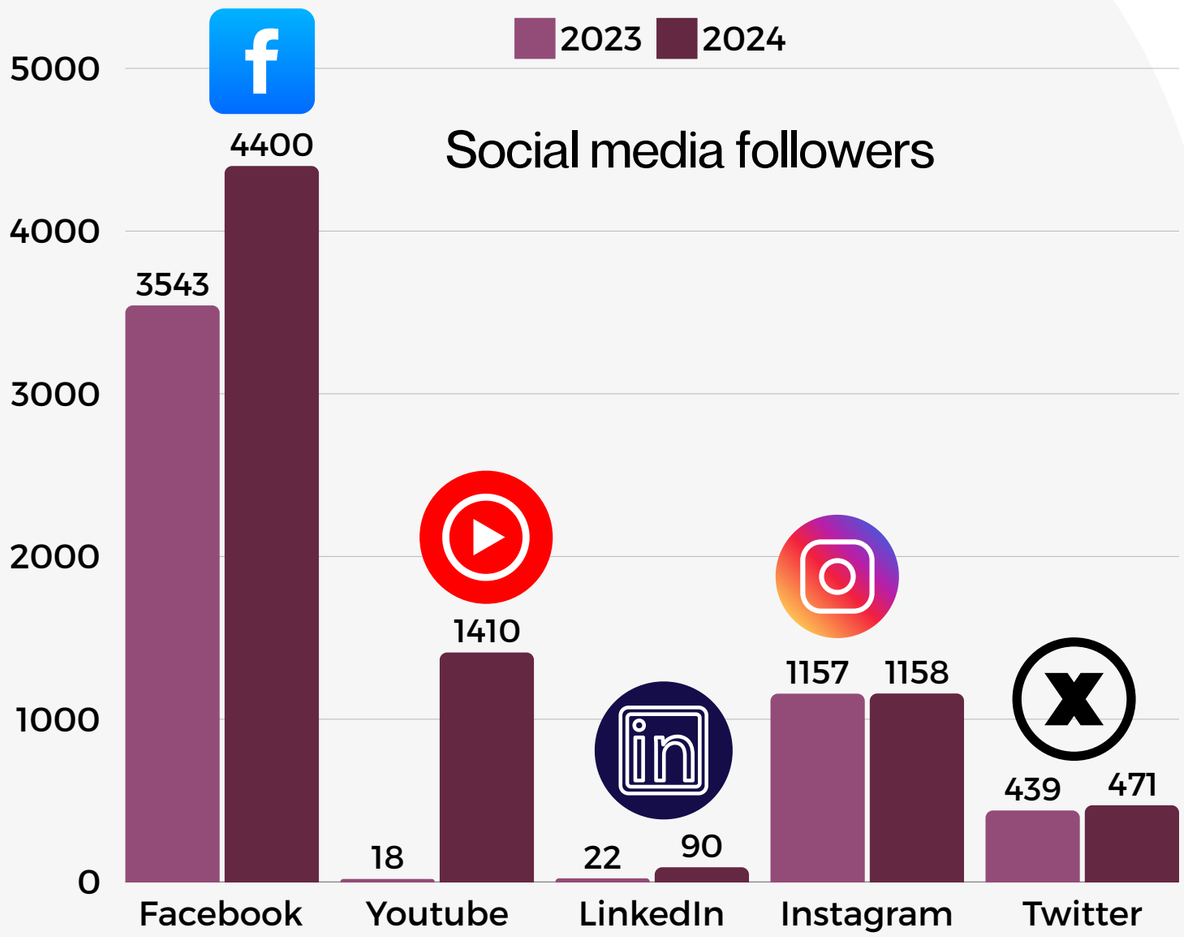
In addition to his internship, Nanbal has achieved great milestones in 2024. In February, he received a Certificate of Service from Professor Adeyi Major, Head of the Department of Political Science at the University of Jos, in recognition of his outstanding work as the Financial Secretary in 2022.

In May, Nanbal participated in a Leadership Training organised by the Center for Transformational Leadership at Patris, which focused on developing effective leadership and communication skills. He also attended a training programme with Impact Water in September, **contributing to providing safe drinking water to students in Plateau State**.

In November, Nanbal completed a UI/UX Design certification through the 3 Million Technical Talent (3MTT) initiative, a Nigeria Federal Government programme aimed at equipping professionals with in-demand technical skills. In December, Nanbal on behalf of COAL received a recognition from our partner Patris Empowerment Initiative, for COAL's contribution to collaboration and partnership in education. We are proud of Nanbal's dedication to personal and professional growth, community service, and leadership.

HOW WE DID ON SOCIAL MEDIA IN 2024

SOCIAL MEDIA REACH ANALYSIS



Followers across platforms saw substantial growth in 2024. COAL's Facebook following increased by 24% from 3,543 in 2023 to 4,400 in 2024. YouTube saw a remarkable rise, with the number of followers jumping from 18 to 1,410 resulting from the launch of Poets for avoidable death campaign. LinkedIn followers also grew from 22 to 90. Instagram and Twitter experienced more modest increases, with Instagram growing from 1,157 to 1,158 and Twitter rising from 439 to 471.

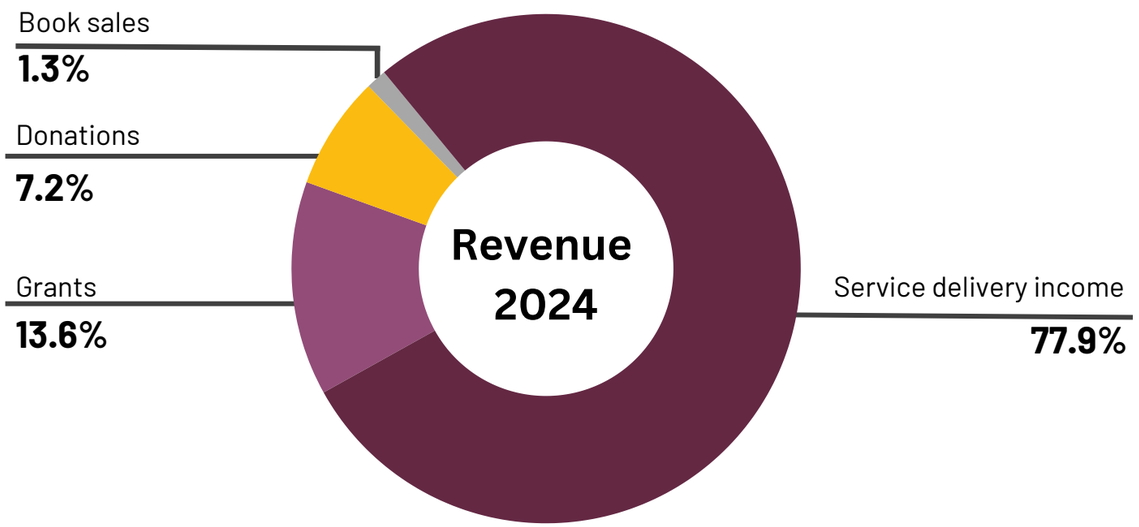
Social Media Performance Overview

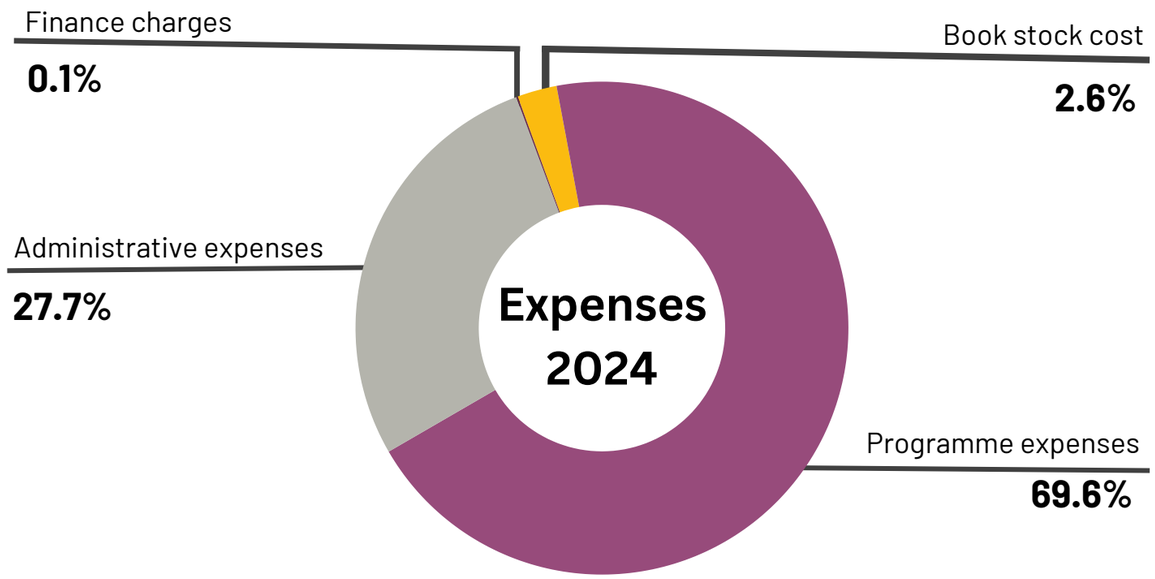
514,725	46,328	32,804
Reach	Views	Engagement
7,529	**5,914**	**544.1**
Followers	Link clicks	Watch time

We saw significant growth and engagement across COAL's social media platforms, generating impressive interactions. The total views across all social media platforms reached an outstanding 46,328, with a broad reach of 514,725 and over 32,800 in engagements, showcasing the growing impact of our online presence. We recorded 5,914 link clicks and a watch time of 544.1 hours, indicating a strong interest in our content and initiatives.

2024 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT





REVENUE AND SUPPORT

	2024 (₦)	2024 ($)	2023 (₦)	2023 ($)
Grants	1,161,000	789	-	-
Donations	617,282	419	2,046,618	3,223
Book sales	109,400	74	18,300	29
Service delivery income	6,646,795	4,515	3,730,000	5,874
Total revenue and support	**8,534,477**	**5,798**	**5,794,918**	**9,126**

EXPENSES

Book stock cost	131,856	173	11,220	104
Programme expenses	3,566,648	2,423	49,000	77
Administrative expenses	1,416,983	963	997,175	1,570
Finance charges	6,415	4	1,143	2
Total expenses	**5,121,902**	**3,563**	**1,058,538**	**1,753**
Change in net assets.	4,852,150	946	4,800,529	5,489
Net assets at beginning of year	5,120,972	5,703	320,443	214
Net assets at end of year	9,973,122	6,649	5,120,972	5,703

Board of Trustees- 2024

- Patience Finye Andrew I Nigeria
- Nnonye Obi I Nigeria
- Olisa Gerald Omenye I Nigeria
- Oluwasegun Oyekeye I Nigeria

LOOKING AHEAD & REFLECTIONS FROM OUR ED

At COAL, we recognise that change needs resources, but importantly, it needs hearts committed to making a difference, ensuring a safe and prosperous world for all. In 2024, we demonstrated how dedication and resourcefulness can create transformative impact. We grew and evolved, adapting to change and venturing into new areas to fulfill our mission. As one of COAL's founding members, I embraced new responsibilities in business development and fundraising, using my expertise in monitoring, evaluation, learning, and training to mobilise resources for our projects. It's been fulfilling to contribute directly to sustaining COAL's work.

Looking ahead, our vision is ambitious and grounded in sustainability. We plan to expand our accelerated learning programs, strengthen partnerships with grassroots partners, local schools, and enhance teacher training. Our micro-education grants will support more grassroots initiatives, accelerating education for underserved communities.

In the literary arts, we will launch new creative writing programmes and grow our open mic series and advocacy campaigns to engage broader audiences. These priorities, along with lessons from the last few years, will shape our next five-year strategic plan (2026–2030).

As we enter 2025, COAL remains steadfast in our mission to ensure young people have access to quality education and the skills to lead impactful lives. Thank you for being part of this journey. Together, we continue to create meaningful change.

With gratitude,

P. Oyekeye

Patience Finye Andrew
Executive Director

HOW TO SUPPORT

With **18.5 million children—60% girls**—out of school and **53% of Nigerian youth unemployed**, we need your support to empower vulnerable children and youth with education and opportunities for a brighter future.

DONATE

PAYSTACK.COM/PAY/COALDONATE

THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS, SUPPORTERS AND CLIENTS

PARTNERS

- Avoidable Deaths Network
- Claire Aid Foundation
- Patris Empowerment Initiative
- Uplifting our Children through Support

SUPPORTERS

- University of Leicester
- Memoirs of Recovery Foundation
- Bamvi Juro Photography
- Yomi Bliss Graphics
- Art Arttack
- Podbeta NG
- Travaille Ensemble

CLIENTS

- Centre for Advocacy Transparency and Accountability Initiative (CATAI)
- Leap Africa
- University of Leicester
- Riegarsir Nigeria Limited

IN-KIND SUPPORT

- Mr Gbenga Oni
- Ms Favour Udi
- Mr Samuel Famolu
- Dr. Charles Dickson
- Iyanuoluwa Fatob
- Yonpan Dariem
- Allwell Akhigbe

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